GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5149
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2000
COAL BED METHANE IN COAL FIELD AREA BIHAR
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has struck Coal Bed Methane in the Coalfield area of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of CBM likely to be explored;

(d) whether it is economically viable for exploration; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) & (b):- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has takenup exploration of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) asResearch and Development (R&D) work and has drilled four wells in Jharia basin in the State of Jharkhand (earlier in Bihar).Preliminary studies and R&D activities undertaken by ONGC have indicated the presence of CBM in this area.

(c) to (e):- The CBM reserves base can be known only after exploration and the commercial viability ofsuch reserves can be established thereafter.